

# Human behavioral contributions to climate change: Psychological and contextual drivers

**Author(s):** Swim JK, Clayton S, Howard GS

**Year:** 2011

**Journal:** The American Psychologist. 66 (4): 251-264

#### Abstract:

We are facing rapid changes in the global climate, and these changes are attributable to human behavior. Humans produce this global impact through our use of natural resources, multiplied by the vast increase in population seen in the past 50 to 100 years. Our goal in this article is to examine the underlying psychosocial causes of human impact, primarily through patterns of reproduction and consumption. We identify and distinguish individual, societal, and behavioral predictors of environmental impact. Relevant research in these areas (as well as areas that would be aided by greater attention by psychologists) are reviewed. We conclude by highlighting ethical issues that emerge when considering how to address human behavioral contributions to climate change.

Source: http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/a0023472

## **Resource Description**

#### Communication: M

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

# Communication Audience: M

audience to whom the resource is directed

**Public** 

#### Exposure: M

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

**Unspecified Exposure** 

#### Geographic Feature: M

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location: M

# Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

### Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Adaption/Mitigation): ☑

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

A focus of content

#### Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Family Planning/Population Reduction): ■

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to promote family planning or reduce population growth as a climate change adaptation or mitigation measure

A focus of content

#### Health Impact: M

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

General Health Impact

### 

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

## Mitigation/Adaptation: **☑**

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

#### Resource Type: **№**

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

#### Timescale: M

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified